

Major Deserts in the World

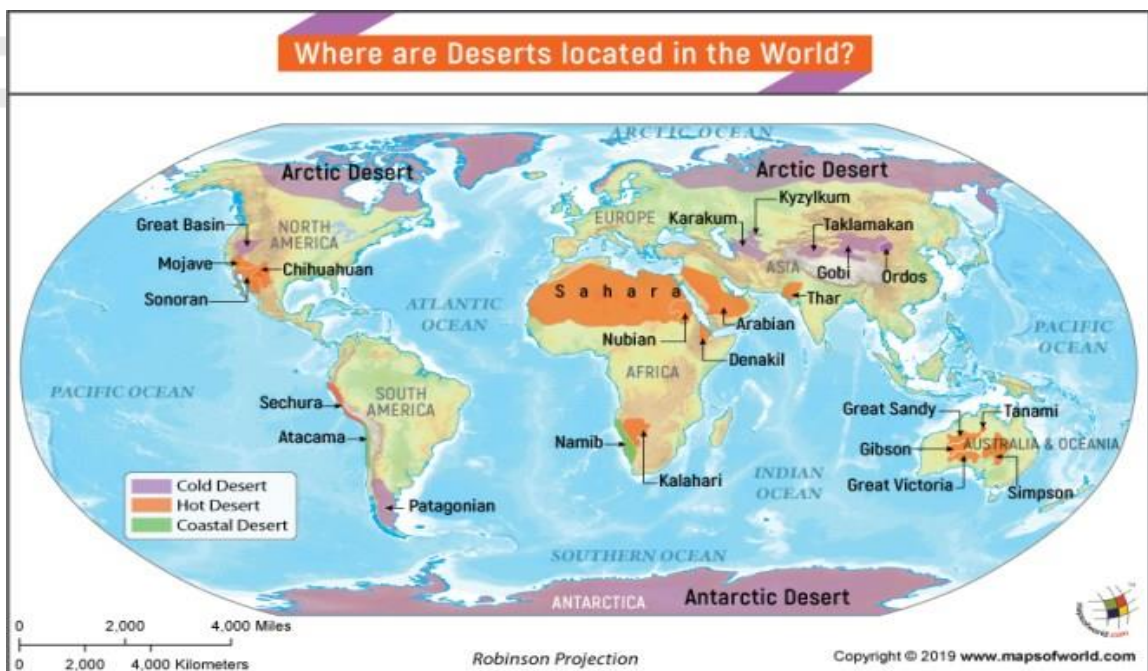
Parcham Classes



Desert & Types

- A place that receives less than 10 inches (25 centimetres) of rain per year is considered a desert.
- Deserts cover more than one-third of the Earth's land area, and they are found on every continent.
- **Types of Deserts:**
 - Polar
 - Sub-Tropical
 - Cold Winter
 - Coastal

Sub Tropical Deserts



Ten largest deserts

Rank	Desert	Area (km ²)	Type
1	Antarctica Desert (Antarctica)	1,42,00,000	Polar
2	Arctic Desert (Arctic)	1,39,00,000	Polar
3	Sahara Desert (Africa)	92,00,000	Subtropical
4	Arabian Desert (Middle East)	23,30,000	Subtropical
5	Gobi Desert (Asia)	12,95,000	Cold Winter
6	Patagonian Desert (South America)	6,73,000	Cold Winter
7	Great Victorian Desert (Australia)	6,50,000	Subtropical
8	Kalahari Desert (Africa)	5,60,000	Subtropical
9	Great Basin Desert (North America)	4,92,000	Cold Winter
10	Syrian Desert (Middle East)	4,90,000	Subtropical

Antarctica Desert (polar)

- **Largest desert on earth**
- 98 % of Antarctica is covered by ice
- The research stations scattered across the continent – the largest being McMurdo Station
- It's covered by a permanent ice sheet that contains 90% of the Earth's fresh water



Source: Worldatlas.com

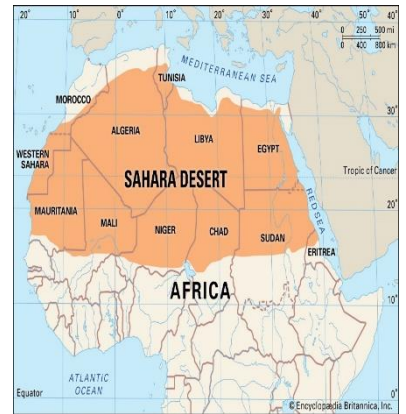
Arctic Desert (polar)

- Second largest desert on Earth
- During the summer months sun doesn't set for a period of 60 days.



Sahara Desert (subtropical)

- **3rd largest overall**
- **Largest hot desert in world**
- Location: Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad, Sudan, Eritrea, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia
- Rivers – Nile, Niger



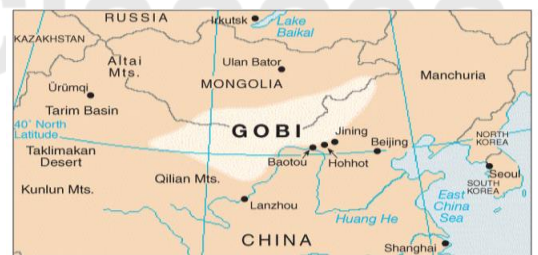
Arabian Desert (subtropical)

- **Largest in Asia**
- World's second largest subtropical desert
- Rich in natural resources, such as oil and sulphur
- It is bordered to North by the Syrian Desert, to East by the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, to the southeast and south by the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden, and to the west by the Red Sea



Gobi Desert (cold winter)

- **2nd largest desert in Asia**
- **Largest Non-Polar Cold Desert**
- Location: China and Mongolia
- Extremely high temperatures during summer and frigid temperatures during winter
- River: Yellow River



Patagonian Desert (cold winter)

- Continent: South America
- Location: Argentina and Chile



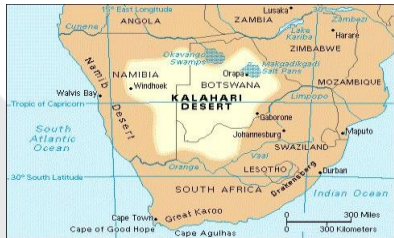
Great Victorian Desert (subtropical)

- Continent: Australia
- The Great Victoria desert is a World Wildlife Fund Ecoregion



Kalahari Desert (subtropical)

- Continent: Africa
- Location: Botswana, Namibia and South Africa
- Land of famous **San people(hunters)**
- Famous for **diamond mining**
- River: Okavango (Orange river)
- Kalahari means great thirst.



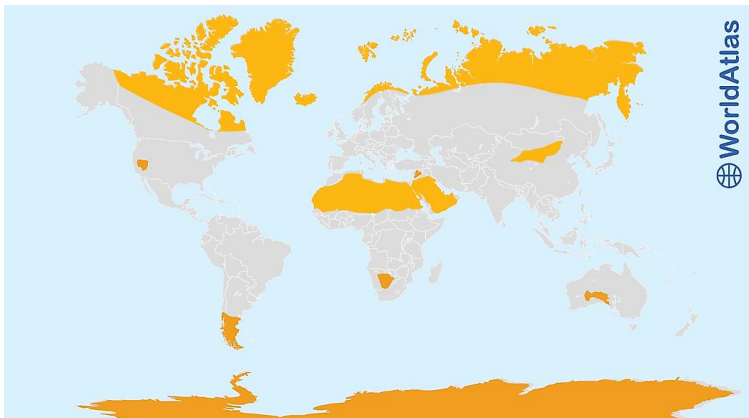
Great Basin desert (cold winter)

- Continent: North America
- Location: United states
- The Great Basin Desert boasts some of the darkest night skies in the United States and is designated as International Dark Sky Park.



Syrian Desert (subtropical)

- Continent: Asia
- Location: Syria, Iraq and Jordan



Other Important Deserts (Continent-wise)



ASIA

- Arabian (subtropical)
- Gobi (cold)
- Taklamakan Desert (cold)
- Thar (subtropical)
- Syrian (subtropical)
- Karakum (continental climate)
- Kyzylkum (continental climate)

Karakum Desert (black sand) is in Turkmenistan

Kyzylkum Desert (red sand) is in Uzbekistan & Kazakhstan



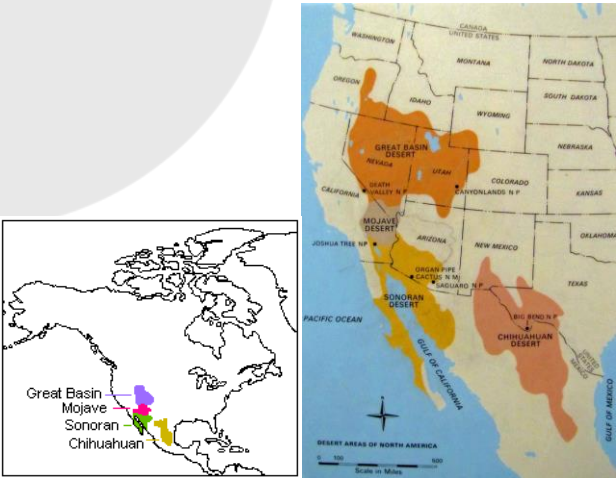
Africa

- Sahara Desert (subtropical)
- Kalahari Desert (subtropical)
- Namib Desert (Coastal)



North America

- Great Basin Desert (cold)
- Chihuahuan Desert (subtropical)
- Sonoran Desert (subtropical)
- Mojave Desert (subtropical)



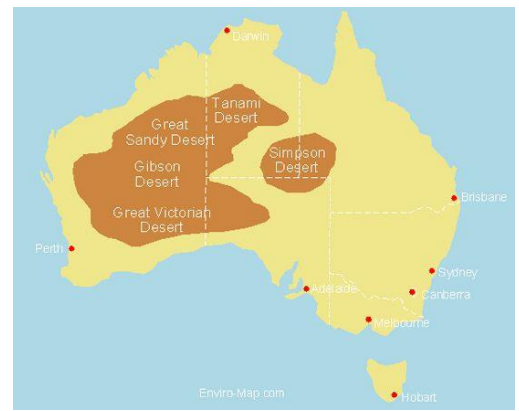
South America

- **Patagonian Desert (cold)**
- **Atacama Desert (coastal)**
 - Driest non polar desert in world
 - Continent: South America
 - Location: Chile
 - The soil here is compared to planet Mars



Australia (subtropical deserts)

- Great Victorian Desert
- Great Sandy Desert
- Gibson Desert
- Tanami Desert
- Simpson Desert



Key Points

Polar Largest –

- Antarctica
- Arctic

Cold Winter Largest -

- Gobi Desert
- Patagonian

Subtropical Largest –

- Sahara
- Arabian

- Driest Non-Polar: Atacama
- Largest Non-Polar – Sahara
- Coldest Non-Polar - Gobi

Parcham Classes